

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the entire paragraph beginning on line 2 of page 3 with the following new paragraph:

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--While US-5,424,356 discloses hydrogenation of NBR which is polymerized in the presence of a polymerizable antidegradant, it does not appear from that patent that the use of such NBR may have a favourable effect on how the hydrogenation reaction proceeds. The use of NBR that is polymerized in the presence of an antidegradant is excluded in the process of the invention, except in the case where the hydrogenation is carried out in the presence of a compound which contains an element from group 13 of the periodic system as catalyst the use of such NBR is not excluded.--